

GRAYS HARBOR CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

April - May 2011

WELCOME!

Thank you to those who attended the "Fun in the Forest" workshop on April 30th. I hope that it was a fun day and you were able to gain knowledge applicable to your tree farm. If you have suggestions for classes that you would like to see next year, please contact me at theresa.marquardt@conservewa.net. I would also like to thank WSU Extension and Department of Natural Resources staff in addition to the Washington Farm Forestry members who made themselves available for the day. Text in Dark Blue will take you to a website with additional information.



Photo courtesy of Mary McDonald, Washington State DNR

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

- ❖ When foliage flushes in the spring, it leaves trees extremely susceptible to damage from the application of the majority of herbicides. Trees become less susceptible in the fall when moisture stress and other environmental factors cause them to set bud in preparation for dormancy. Always adhere to the label requirements and wear the proper safety equipment when applying chemical. The website for the Pacific Northwest Weed Management Handbook has been updated to <http://pnwhandbooks.org/weed/>.



Spray damage which occurred in the fall following an aerial herbicide application over coast redwood.

- ❖ [Click Here](#) for the log price summary from March & April 2011 provided by the Department of Natural Resources.
- ❖ Stumpage Value Tables from the Department of Revenue with log prices projected for the first half of the year can be viewed [HERE](#). Keep in mind these are averages and are often ahead of or behind current log price trends.
- ❖ Seedlings may be scarce again next season. Start your search for available seedlings today, download the native plant nursery list from [GHCD Here](#).

GRAYS HARBOR CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

April - May 2011

IN THE NEWS

Bentley establishes forest recovery task force

Fox6 WBRC, May 12th

The April tornadoes not only ruined thousands of homes across the state, but also hundreds of thousands of tree acreage. Governor Robert Bentley announced Thursday the creation of a task force to help remove the fallen timber. [Read More.](#)

Planting pine in a forest with too many?

Rapid City Journal, May 12th

It might seem contradictory, planting trees in the Black Hills National Forest at a time when the focus is on thinning the woods. But the Jasper Fire burn area is a different place with different management objectives than most parts of the 1.2 million-acre forest, where pines are plentiful, the threat of wild fire troubling and bug infestations high. [Read More.](#)



Beth Steinhauer The Black Hills National Forest along with its contract partner, Pacific Coast Forestry from Medford, OR, planted 157,000 ponderosa pine seedlings in two and a half weeks to help reforest the old Jasper fire area. (Photo by Beth Steinhauer/Black Hills National Forest)

Getting the Moonlight cut up and out

Plumas County News, May 17, 2011

After almost four years of frustration, local loggers and helicopter loggers are finally salvaging some value out of the big timber standing dead in the most severely burned areas of the 2007 Moonlight Fire. [Read More.](#)

Home Construction Activity Down Sharply In April

The ASSOCIATED PRESS, May 17, 2011

Construction of new homes in America plummeted in April, dragged down by a major drop in apartment building. Builders broke ground on 10.6 percent fewer new homes last month from the previous month. [Read More.](#)

Early winter, cold spring hurt Mid-Columbia farmers

The News Tribune, April 30, 2011

Alan Schreiber hurried up and down the tented rows of vegetables and melons on his 115-acre farm north of Pasco on Friday, declaring, "Alive, dead, dead, alive, dead, alive, dead." It was not a pretty picture for Schreiber, whose organic crops have been decimated by an unseasonably cold spring despite being sheltered by plastic covers. [Read More.](#)

GRAYS HARBOR CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

April - May 2011

EVENTS

- June 15-16, Chehalis, WA - The Washington Hardwood Commission is holding a two day seminar on “**Hardwood Supply in the Pacific NW - Challenges & Opportunities.**” The second day will be a half day field trip. Cost is \$50.00 which includes the meeting, lunch, and field trip. A registration form is available at the [GHCD website](#).
- June 18, Gilmer, WA – **Forest & Range Owners Field Day.** Whether you own a “home in the woods” or many acres of land, this “out in the woods” educational event is packed with practical “how-to” information that you need to know! Register before June 10th and save \$10. Download the registration brochure [HERE](#) or contact Andy Perleberg, WSU Extension Educator, at (509) 667-6540 with any questions.
- If you live near Everett, you may want to check the WSU Extension calendar [HERE](#). Kevin Zobrist has several events planned this summer and fall.
- September 22 & 23rd, Oakville WA - [Northwest Natural Resource Group](#) is taking registration forms now for the “**Game of Logging**” two day seminar. The program combines tree felling techniques gleaned from around the world into a complete training program that will change the way you work in the woods. Cost for non-members of Northwest Certified Forestry is \$325. Contact Kirk Hanson, 360-316-9317, kirk@nnrg.org for more information on this event.
- For more events in Grays Harbor County, visit the [Grays Harbor Tourism Information Center](#).

Feature Article

The August 12th deadline for NRCS EQIP is approaching - make sure to get your application in on time. Refer to the attached pages for additional information or give your local Conservationist a call. Other field office information can be viewed [HERE](#).

Grays Harbor County
Montesano Service Center
Scott Cook
scott.cook@wa.usda.gov
(360) 249-5900 x101

Pacific County
S. Bend Service Center
Nick Somero
nick.somero@wa.usda.gov
(360) 875 – 6300

Lewis County
Chehalis Service Center
Jennifer Kubel
jennifer.kubel@wa.usda.gov
(360) 748 – 0083 x111

Thurston County
Olympia Service Center
Paul Gleason or
Jeff Swotek
paul.gleason@wa.usda.gov
jeff.swotek@wa.usda.gov
(360) 704 – 7740

Puget Sound Team Forester
Puyallup Service Center
Joshua Himsl
joshua.himsl@wa.usda.gov
(253) 845 - 9272 x110

Assistance for Forest Landowners



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resource Conservation Service

Conservation assistance and funding for landowners is available through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

Dear Forest Landowner,

*Do you want to improve your forest stands?
Do you want to enhance wildlife habitat on your land?
Do you need help controlling invasive and noxious weeds?*

NRCS can help!

The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) offers funding to help non-industrial private forest landowners implement conservation projects on their forest land through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). EQIP is a voluntary program that provides financial and technical expertise to landowners who want to plan and install measures to protect the soil, water, air and other natural resources on their land.

EQIP provides cost share and incentive payments for the implementation of certain conservation practices such as pre-commercial thinning, stand release, culvert replacements for fish passage, and other practices important to improving and maintaining the health of natural resources in the area.

If you have natural resource concerns on your land and are interested in making a commitment to conservation, EQIP could provide the funds you need to make it happen. To find out if EQIP is a fit for your operation, contact your local NRCS office at a USDA Service Center in your area or go to www.wa.nrcs.usda.gov.

The application deadline for 2012 projects is August 12th, 2011.



EQIP Forestry Practices

Wildlife Habitat Development

Stand release

Pre-commercial thinning

Road closure

Culvert replacement

Erosion control

Site preparation

Pruning

Slash Treatment

Fuel Breaks

And more!



**NRCS is helping
Washington's
landowners grow
their forest
resources**



Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

for Forest Landowners

EQIP Forestry Details

Before applying for financial assistance through EQIP for your forest or woodland, you should develop a forest management plan. To get started, contact your State forestry agency or local USDA service center to find a forester near you. If you already have a forest management plan, contact your forester or local NRCS office to learn if additional information is needed.

- Owners of non-industrial private forestland or land capable of growing trees may apply for the program.
- There is no minimum acreage requirement to apply for EQIP.
- Contracts can be for multiple years.
- Participants contract to complete conservation projects and are paid the NRCS incentive rates for those projects once the project is installed.



Culvert converted to a bridge to aid fish passage



Other NRCS Programs of Interest

Other NRCS programs that may be of interest to forest landowners include:

Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP)

Under WHIP, the NRCS provides technical and financial assistance through cost-share agreements to implement habitat restoration and enhancement projects such as enhancing forage for elk, and game birds.

Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)

The WRP program assists eligible landowners with the restoration, creation, protection and enhancement of wetlands on their property through a voluntary, environmentally safe and cost-effective manner.

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

Already practicing conservation efforts on your land? You may be eligible for CSP. CSP encourages landowners to maintain existing conservation activities and adopt additional ones on their operations.



For more information:

Washington-specific information can be found at

www.wa.nrcs.usda.gov.

NRCS information can be found at

www.nrcs.usda.gov

